

Indexer, published by R. R. Bowker Co., New York & London, which has been much acclaimed.

The Council members of The Society have over the years come to value highly Monty Harrod's qualities of friendliness, wisdom and fair judgment. He has worked hard during this time to encourage and support every aspect of The Society's endeavours, particularly in the years when it was struggling for recognition. His interest in the training courses for indexers reflects his desire to help beginners to develop and to improve standards, and

his overseas connections have helped to extend the bounds of The Society.

Peter Greig, of the affiliated Canadian society, writes, 'I am sure my fellow members in the IASC echo my congratulations to Mr Harrod at this honour and to The Society in its recognition of one of its most esteemed members'.

Truly, a most worthy recipient of the highest accolade of The Society of Indexers.

Hilda M. Pearson
SI Information Officer

THE WHEATLEY MEDAL FOR 1981

Owing to exceptional circumstances, the Library Association was unable to make the usual administrative and financial arrangements for awarding this medal, which has been offered for a number of years to an outstanding index—to a book or periodical—compiled and first published in the United Kingdom. This year these arrangements were made on behalf of the Library Association by The Society of Indexers. The usual methods were used; i.e. the normal conditions of the award were adopted, and the adjudicating panel consisted of six members, three nominated by the LA, three by the SI.

Eighteen books and two periodicals were submitted for consideration this year. Of the books, one was judged to be ineligible because it did not comply with the compilation and publication requirements. Of the remainder, some were considered to be unsatisfactory for the following reasons: although they seemed comprehensive, on close examination by the Panel they were found to be quite inadequate, many necessary name or subject references being omitted; many double or more entries were not provided as required under authors or subjects; subject headings were not appropriate for the matter indexed; there were strings of page numbers—occasionally amounting to forty or more—without divisive subheadings (this was a common weakness); the effectiveness of the indexing was seriously diminished for the user by far too many run-on entries, or otherwise unsatisfactory typographical presentation.

The *Analytical index to the publications of the Institution of Civil Engineers, January 1975-79* (published by the ICE) was very carefully examined, and the Panel was impressed by the comprehensiveness of references in the groups of authors and joint authors, subjects, and place and project names into which the index of 164 pp. (21.5 x 13.3 cm.), covering five years of the Institution's publications, were divided. These included the *Proceedings, Géotechnique*, conference papers,

lectures, colloquia, symposia, and books. The selection of subject headings (sometimes synonymous but accurate), completeness of author and subject entries and references, use of abbreviations, clarity with conciseness, in fact highly professional competence, and perfect typographical presentation, convinced all the members of the Panel that this index, which was compiled by J. Edwin Holmstrom PhD, C.Eng, FICE, FIL, FIInfSc., should be awarded the Medal for 1981.

A month after the announcement of the Wheatley Award for 1981, all concerned were deeply saddened to learn of the death of the recipient, Dr Holmstrom, in his 85th year, following a stroke. He had been told of the award in hospital by his wife, and was, she says, absolutely delighted.

L. Montague Harrod
Chairman of the Panel

Entries for the Wheatley Medal 1982

Authors, publishers, librarians, members of The Society of Indexers and of the affiliated societies, readers of *The Indexer*: in fact, all who are concerned with indexed publications are reminded of their entitlement to recommend indexes as contenders for next year's award of the Wheatley Medal. To be eligible the index must be in print, and must have been *first* published in the UK (or *simultaneously* in the UK and some other country or countries) between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 1982; it must also have been compiled in the UK, even though the text to which it refers may have originated outside the UK. Recommendations, with essential bibliographical details, should be submitted to: Development Secretary, Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE, *by the end of January 1983*.